

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-23, as amended, are presented for examination.
Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the office action, the abstract is objected to by the Examiner. The abstract has been amended in response to the objection.

Several claims stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In some cases, the claims have been amended to eliminate the indefiniteness. In other cases, the specification has been amended to include subject matter in the claims. Applicant believes that this subject matter relating to elements in a refinery is sufficiently known and described in the literature that further description is unwarranted (see e.g. Speight, J.G. 1999. The Chemistry and Technology of Petroleum. Third edition. Marcel Dekker Inc., New York.).

Claims 1 and 6 have been objected to by the Examiner. These claims have been amended as the Examiner suggests.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bjornson, US 6,505,145. Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bjornson, US 6,505,145, in view of Decker US 5,107,441.

Claims 5, 9-12, 16-19, and 23 contain allowable subject but are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 5 and, therefore, is allowable. The remaining claims all depend from claim 1 and also should be allowable.

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Applicants believe that the claims now present in the application to be patentable and that this application is in condition for allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully requested. If any questions or issues remain, the resolution of which the Examiner feels would be advanced by a conference; he is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.34(a)

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